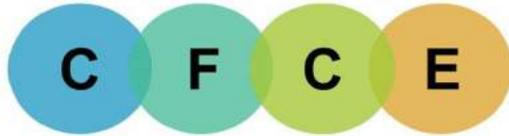


COLORADO FOUNDATION



FOR CONDUCTIVE EDUCATION

... Achieving independence through active learning

Fall/Winter Newsletter



Volume 10, Issue 3

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The Colorado Foundation for
Conductive Education is a 501(c)(3)
public charity committed to providing
opportunities for individuals
with motor challenges to achieve
optimal physical, cognitive
and social independence
through the application
and promotion of
Conductive Education principles.

2019 Ski Days: We Need Your Help!

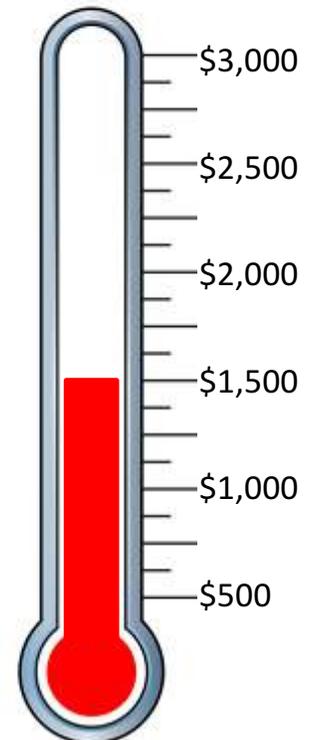
Ski Days are fast-approaching and we urgently need your help to make them happen. Ski Days, made possible by our generous donors, are always a huge hit with the kids in our program. Skiing is a big part of the winter season for families in Colorado and we are so fortunate to have several programs available that make it possible for our kids to access the activity, no matter what their ability! Skiing with adapted equipment allows our kids to experience the excitement of skiing in a safe and enjoyable way. The adaptive programs at Breckenridge and Winter Park provide specialized equipment like sit-skis, which allow the kids to ski in a supported sitting position, and ski legs, for kids who need just a bit of extra support. Rowan, who has spina bifida and is pictured to the right, loves having the opportunity to ski with his family. He uses a specially adapted ski walker to be as independent as possible while enjoying the slopes.



We need \$1,500
to reach our goal



We are still in need of funding to offer this opportunity to as many of our kids as possible. We are halfway to our goal of providing this fantastic experience to 30 children. *Please consider making this possible with a tax-deductible donation to CFCE by mailing a check or email admin@conductiveed.com for more information.*



Off To Mexico, Cabo San Lucas:

A follow-up with our Live Auction winner, Tyler Olsen and his family.

The Olsen Family went to Cabo San Lucas again this year via the CFCE golf tournament live auction. A great time was had by all. We stayed at Playa Grande Resort courtesy of Roxanne and Jim Waechter’s generous donation to the Live Auction this year. The resort and rooms were a good fit for our family of 4 and the kids enjoyed the multiple pools. The resort is in downtown Cabo so we were able to explore and enjoyed several fantastic meals all within walking distance. We were also close to any of the activities you would want to do while on your vacation.

This year the trip included a private Fishing charter donated by Jack Bradley. Although the fishing wasn’t great, the boat was excellent and the time on the water was enjoyable. Our 12 year old did manage to catch and release a hammerhead shark which was the highlight of her trip!

We’ve done this trip three times now and look forward to seeing if it’s available each year at the auction. Jim and Roxanne always make it easy and have a lot of good recommendations for food, activities, and transportation.

Written by Tyler Olsen



Above left: Manxman fishing boat. Above right: Jack Bradley catching a red snapper with crewman Fernando.

A very special thank you to Jack Bradley at Manxman, LLC for his generous donation of a fishing charter trip for the Live Auction prize.

GOLD SPONSORS \$2500

**Warren and
Caroline Baker**

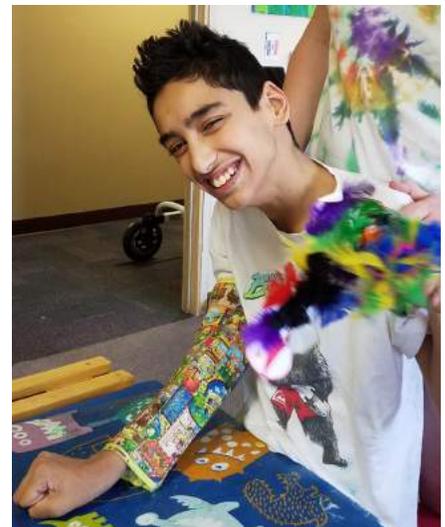


A Huge Thank You To Our Sponsors!



Above left: Jack Bradley holding a delicious Mexican coffee. Above right: Jack Bradley with boat captain Daniel and crewman Fernando.

We had a great, and very full, summer this year at CFCE. **27 children attended 6 camps over 11 weeks**, the most camp kids we have ever had! **4 children**, who were new to the program, began after-school year round classes after the end of camp. We had two new camps this year, a **Transition Camp** for teens and a **High Ability** camp for mildly impacted children. Both were well received and will be offered again next summer. Our camp days were extended by an hour this year, which allowed for **30 hours of intensive** intervention every week!



Meet A CFCE Kid: Madeleine

Written by her mother, Corinne

At first glance this picture might look like a naughty 4 year old is about to get scolded for counter surfing. But you'd be wrong. Instead, Maddie was praised for being able to figure out she needed to pull the dishwasher door down, to crawl on top and then stand up to reach the toaster on the counter which she desperately wanted to play with. You see, Madeleine has a rare neurological disorder called Pitt Hopkins Syndrome which impairs her motor planning, causes gross and fine motor challenges and is responsible for other global developmental delays. So when this curious little girl was motivated enough by the toaster to plan 3 or 4 steps ahead to reach her goal, her parents were ecstatic! Maddie was removed from danger and thrown into the air in celebration!



It is estimated that only 1,000 people around the world have been diagnosed with Pitt Hopkins Syndrome. This rare syndrome is usually caused by a de novo (non-inherited) mutation of the TCF 4 gene on chromosome 18. People with this gene mutation have many challenges like Maddie, including difficulties learning to walk, challenges in controlling fine motor movements, lack of verbal language and delays in all developmental milestones.

Madeleine had the pleasure of starting Conductive Ed in July at the intense 3-week long, 5-day a week, 6-hour a day summer camp. During camp Maddie developed her strength, confidence and abilities in not only learning to walk, but all areas of her life. She started to feed herself, participate in her self-care routines such as dressing and undressing (she has become an expert at unzipping and escaping her sleep sack especially when protesting a nap), communicating with her family and friends by utilizing her talker AND taking up to 6 unassisted steps! To say the least, it was a big summer for Madeleine.

So much progress was made at summer camp that we did all we could to rearrange her packed therapy schedule to allow for weekly group CE classes and private at home sessions. After only 4 weeks of group classes, Maddie is now reliably taking up to 12 controlled, unassisted steps, often to reach something she's been longing to play with for years. We love how the independence Maddie is gaining through the help of CE is uncovering more and more of her personality, helping us better understand what motivates her. It turns out we have a very silly, brave and somewhat naughty little girl on our hands and we LOVE it! We can't wait to see what she gets into next.

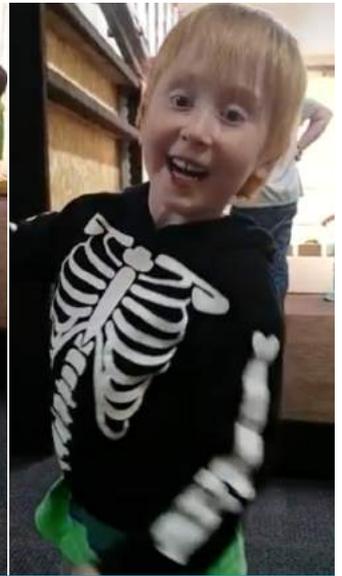
Sincerest thanks to our Family Fall Festival Sponsors & Donors!

Gratitude to these families & individuals:
 Jennifer Doyle
 Sarah Portillo
 Jalyss & James Zapfletts
 Andrea & Kenny Samson
 Stacy Loughlin
 Erika Griess
 Corinne DePersis

On the Vine at Richmond Farms

Fall Family Festival: Fritzler Farm

We were excited to be given the opportunity by Fritzler Farm Park in LaSalle to host our first Fall Family Festival. The event was part fundraiser, part family fun activity! We sold baked goods, produce, Teal Pumpkins (as part of the Teal Pumpkin Project), flowers, and hot apple cider and enjoyed the many activities offered at the farm park: pumpkin picking, playing in the corn pit, sliding down the huge slides, riding on the train, visiting the farm animals, and more. One of the highlights was a wheelchair race on Fritzler's race track. CFCE received a portion of the proceeds for all tickets we sold as well as the 50% proceeds of all Teal Pumpkins that were sold for the rest of the season. Thank you to everyone who donated & participated!



I CAN step off a box by myself!

FINLEY, 5

Fin has been working on stepping on and off of boxes for the past few months. He was so excited last week when, for the first time, he stepped off of our tallest box by himself! This will help Fin be more independent on his many adventures. Not only have his physical skills improved, but we've also noticed that he is more confident and better at problem solving. We love to see his hard work paying off.

I CAN walk with canes without help!

SADIE, 5

We have seen Sadie make so much progress over the past couple of months. From standing independently for longer periods to walking with canes independently. Recently, Sadie was able to walk all the way from the classroom to the door (over 30 feet) with her canes without help and without a break! She is excited to try new things and we are excited to see her learning so much. Well done, Sadie!





End Of Year Giving

Did you know that when you give to CFCE you are providing much more than conductive education classes for our kids? CFCE employs a holistic approach that impacts all areas of our participants lives. Your donation allows us to spend time with our kids outside of class at doctors appointments, home assessments, and school meetings. We also go to schools to train paraprofessionals and teachers as well as spend time in-home and in class training respite care givers. This ensures that the skills our kids learn in class can be used in their every day lives. With your financial support, we advocate for the independence of CFCE kids in all areas of their lives.

Would you consider partnering with us through an end-of-year financial gift? Your donation will make a huge impact on children with disabilities and their families. If you would like to donate this holiday season, you can send a check to CFCE, PO Box 746296, Arvada, CO 80006. Alternatively, you can go online to www.conductiveed.com and click on 'Donate' at the bottom of the home page to give a gift using a credit card.



Thank you for your generous support!

Family Assistance Fund UPDATE:

For many of our children, conductive education has meant the difference between not walking and walking, being dressed each morning and dressing independently, feeling alone and having friends just like them. Financial capacity should never mean the difference between dependence and independence.

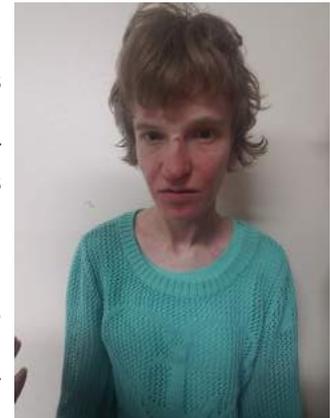
The out-of-pocket cost for sessions is one of the biggest barriers to families wanting to enter our program so we are very excited to currently have two families accessing our program, with the help of the Family Assistance Fund, and more interested.

We are incredibly grateful for the financial support from our generous donors who supported this program that has allowed us to extend funding to families who would otherwise not be able to attend our classes. We are looking forward to having more students using these funds to take part in CFCE's life-changing intervention and community.

Thank you!

Adult Program

Conductive Education isn't just for kids! Around the world CE is used as an effective intervention for adults with motor disabilities such as cerebral palsy, stroke, Traumatic Brain Injury, Parkinson's disease, and multiple sclerosis. We are still working to create a weekly adult group at our Arvada location.



The program will run two times a week for 3 hours a day. This group will be comprised of adults 18 and older and aimed to increase independence and self-efficacy. We currently have 2 adults who are interested and we are looking for 2-3 more to launch the program in January 2019. If you are interested in this program, or know someone who might be, please reach out to us at Admin@conductiveed.com to learn more!

New Summer Program: Teen Transition Camp

This summer, 4 teens signed up for our first ever transition camp. The camp was created after several long-time CFCE parents expressed interest in a camp that would meet the changing needs of their preteen/teenage children. This camp had a very different format to our typical summer camps, taking place 3 days a week and out in the community.

The purpose of the transition camp was to help the kids identify areas of their lives in which they could increase their independence, with the ultimate goal of living on their own someday. All of the kids set goals for themselves on the first day and we spent the remaining days working on the skills they wanted to improve.



During the camp we went to a local gym, where the campers learned about the specific areas of their bodies they needed to strengthen in order to improve their independence and practiced using the equipment. We also made a trip to the grocery store where we practiced finding specific items. We returned to the center after this trip and the group made their own dinner; lasagna and a fruit salad dessert! A trip to Old Navy gave the group the opportunity to practice navigating a clothing store by themselves and staying within a budget. The last day was a fun scavenger hunt in Old Towne Arvada where we talked about accessibility difficulties they may encounter.



One of the highlights of the week was one of the campers successfully transferring, without assistance, into a car from her wheelchair for the first time! The group enjoyed the program and all said they are excited to sign up again next year.



SILVER SPONSORS \$1000

The Rosemary and
 David Olsen
 Foundation

Tyler and Marce
 Olsen



Henry & Debbie Allhoff



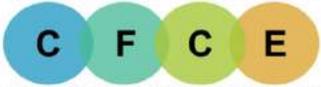
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Donate today!

Go to:
www.conductiveeed.com
Your donations help
change lives!

IMPORTANT DATES:

**December 8th, 2018 - Parents' Night Out,
Loveland**

**January 19th & February 2nd, 2019 -
Breckenridge Ski Days**

March 16th, 2019 - Winter Park Ski Day

I'll do my part to help CFCE....

Yes, I would like to donate to CFCE and help individuals with motor disabilities. I want to do my part to help them achieve their goal of independence. I've enclosed my **tax-deductible gift of:**

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other \$ _____



Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ (please print legibly)

*Help us to be eco-friendly! Give us your email address so we can send your donation confirmation by email.
Thank you!*



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